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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 000150

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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/WE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/22/2020  
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [UK](#)  
SUBJECT: UK PARLIAMENT OFFICIALS ON PREPARATIONS FOR THE  
NEXT PARLIAMENT

Classified By: Political Counselor Robin Quinville, reasons 1.4 (b/d).

1. (C/NF) Summary. At a private meeting on Wednesday, 20 January, two of Parliament's most senior officers laid out the contingency plans cur
2. (SBU) Robert Rogers and Philippa Helme are senior officers in Parliament with over 40 years experience of its workings. Rogers is a procedu  
Election Timetables and Coalition Building -----
3. (C/NF) Rogers explained to Poloffs on January 20 that while it is common knowledge that the Prime Minister alone decides on the date of the  
Getting Parliament Up and Running -----
4. (C/NF) The first job of a new Parliament, before even the official swearing-in of new MPs takes place, is the re-election of the Speaker.
5. (C/NF) Assuming Bercow is re-elected in his constituency, he will then face an uncertain vote in Parliament on his re-election as Speaker.
6. (C/NF) At PMQs on 20 January 2010, Rogers, who was present as the senior parliamentary clerk advising the Speaker, advised the Speaker to r  
Televised Debates -----
7. (C/NF) Rogers and Helm both thought that the televised election debates between party leaders would have a positive effect on this electio  
SUSMAN